

REMARKS

By this response, Applicants have canceled claims 20-23 and 31-34, without prejudice.

As a result, claims 24-30 and 35-36 are pending in this application. These amendments are being made to facilitate early allowance of the presently claimed subject matter. Applicants do not acquiesce in the correctness of the objections and rejections and reserve the right to pursue the full scope of the subject matter of the original claims in a subsequent patent application that claims priority to the instant application.

In the Office Action, claims 20-23 and 31-34 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by Japanese Publication Number 09-027639 (Koichi). By this response, Applicants have canceled these claims, without prejudice.

Further, the Office indicates that claims 24-30 and 35-36 are allowable. As a result, all pending claims have been allowed by the Office. Should the Examiner require anything further to place the application in better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned representative at the number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

/John LaBatt/

John W. LaBatt, Reg. No. 48,301
Hoffman, Warnick & D'Alessandro LLC
75 State Street, 14th Floor
Albany, NY 12207
(518) 449-0044 - Telephone
(518) 449-0047 - Facsimile

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